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PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

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FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

11

|                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Application Number     | 09/678,414         |
| Filing Date            | October 2, 2000    |
| First Named Inventor   | David W. Carlson   |
| Group Art Unit         | 2823               |
| Examiner Name          | B. Kebede          |
| Attorney Docket Number | 100-13600 (P04797) |

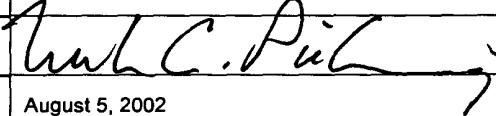
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers<br>(for an Application)                      | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached  | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Response to Paper No. 7        | <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After Final (Response)                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition    | <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application               | <input type="checkbox"/> Status Inquiry  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s)<br>(please identify below):         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer  | <b>Return Receipt Postcard<br/>Certificate of Mailing</b>                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund   |  |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application    |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 |   |  |

## Remarks

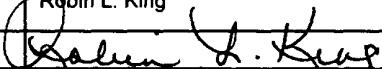
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## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Firm or Individual name | Mark C. Pickering, Reg. No. 36,239  |
| Signature               |  |
| Date                    | August 5, 2002  |

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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| Typed or printed name | Robin L. King   | Date | August 5, 2002 |
| Signature             |  |      |                |

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09/678,414

Response to Office Action Mailed June 5, 2002

COPY OF PAPERS  
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PATENT

AUG 13 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

David W. Carlson

Appln. No.: 09/678,414

Filed: October 2, 2000

For: METHOD FOR PLANARIZING A THIN  
FILM

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Group Art Unit: 2823

Examiner: B. Kebede

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED  
JUNE 5, 2002

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Dated: 08-05-02 By Reinhard Riege

Dear Sir:

In response to the Official Action mailed June 5, 2002, please amend the above-  
identified application as follows:

In the Claims

Claim 18 has been cancelled.

The claims have been amended to read as follows:

16. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the layer of first material makes  
an electrical contact with a device on the wafer.

19. (Amended) The method of claim 22 wherein the first lower level lies above  
the wafer upper level.

20. (Amended) The method of claim 19  
wherein the planarized layer of first material has a thickness over the wafer upper  
layer, and

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